COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



Kurt E. Floren Agricultural Commissioner Director of Weights and Measures

Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures

12300 Lower Azusa Road Arcadia, California 91006-5872 http://acwm.lacounty.gov



DATE:

December 5, 2011

TO:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor, Fifth District

Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Third District Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District

FROM:

Kurt E. Floren

Agricultural Commissioner Director of Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY ERADICATION

Two sexually mature male specimens of Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF), a major agricultural pest, were detected by my staff in North Hollywood and Burbank on Monday, November 14, and Monday, November 28, respectively. The detections were less than a mile apart, close enough in distance and time to warrant action. Mated female Oriental Fruit Flies deposit eggs into host fruits and vegetables and resulting maggots make the produce unfit for consumption. The species is known to target over 230 different fruit, vegetable and plant commodities. To address this pest, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) personnel will conduct an OFF eradication operation over a 13 square-mile area covering portions of City of Burbank and City of Los Angeles neighborhoods of Toluca Lake, West Toluca Lake, Studio City, Valley Village, Valley Glen, and North Hollywood (see attached map).

A "male attractant" technique is being employed to combat this pest. Presenting no inconvenience to community members, the process consists of squirting a small spot of bait onto streetside tree trunks. Approximately 600 such "bait stations" are placed approximately eight to ten feet up on the trees in each square mile of the eradication area. Male flies feed on the bait and are killed by the small amount of Naled pesticide in the bait. No aerial bait treatments are planned. CDFA completed the first treatment on Saturday, December 3, and will repeat treatments at two-week intervals for at least six sessions. Please note that the designated environmentally sensitive area on the map is for the San Fernando spine flower; this is not an issue for these treatments.

We are informing the City Manager of Burbank, City of Los Angeles Councilmembers, their respective public works departments, the County Department of Public Works, and your Board offices in the treatment area to enable staff to answer questions from the public.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update.

KEF:kp

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer Brence Culp, Manager, Public Safety Cluster Board Deputies

